Partly cloudy today and tomorrow.

# The Washington Times

**FIVE SECTIONS** FIFTY PAGES

NUMBER 4004

WASHINGTON, SUNDAY, MAY 28, 1905.

### GAS LEASE DEAD; PEOPLE WIN WAR AGAINST "STEAL"

U. G. I. Directors Decline to Enter Into a New Contract.

### YIELD TO BOSS DURHAM

Mayor Weaver May Go Back With the Ring Now Fight Is Over.

PHILADELPHIA, May 27.—The fight over the extension of the lease of the municipal gas works in this city to the United Gas Improvement Company for a period of seventy-five years is off, a

The struggle which was precipitated by the announcement of Mayor Weaver that he would veto the bill extending the lease, passed by the select and common councils last week, was ended by that it would not accept the lease ever if it should be ratified.

This announcement was made at 2 o'clock this afternoon at the offices of the gas company. A letter in which the company tells why it has taken this course, and which was addressed to both branches of the municipal legislature was then made public.

The letter recites the history of the passing of the ordinance and recites the provisions of the lease, especially dwelling on the amendment made in the council providing for a reduction, after a certain period, of the price of gas from \$1 to 80 cents per 1,000 feet. The fact that the movement to extend the lease has aroused great public indigna-tion is also referred to.

#### Public Opposition.

Continuing the letter reads: The manner in which the whole sub

of gas lease upon any terms.
"This being so this company is uncontract whatever with the city look- could swim to shore, ing to a variation of the terms of the

"The United Gas Improvement Com-pany, therefore, begs respectfully to advise councils that, for the reasons stated above, should the pending ordinance become a law it will not be acwepted by it.'

The letter is signed by the president of the company, Thomas Dolan.

### Directors Surrender.

The action of the directors in thus yielding to public opinion on the ques-tion of the gas lease was only taken after a long discussion of the matter, and at the express demand of Israel W. Durham, boss of the Republican organ- the affair until nearly 6 o'clock.

A conference lasting from 10 o'clock this morning until 2 o'clock was held and dragged the river for several hours before the directors surrendered. Then without success. the letter referred to was prepared. It was addressed to Harry C. Rausby, the night. It will be resumed this president of the select council, and morning. George McCurdy, president of the com-

Senator Penrose, President Thomas Dolan, of the U. G. I. Company; Boss Durham, James McNichols, and other political leaders and followers of the gas ring were at the conference.

It is understood that Boss Durham put his demand for the withdrawal of the company from the fight in no uncertain terms. He referred to the state of public opinion in regard to the proposed extension, and pointed out the embarrassment which the passage of the bill has brought upon members of the two

The gas company, he insisted, has no right to put the councilmen, who have been the tools of the organization, into the predicament of having to choose between the people and the gas in

The defections from the ranks of the 'gas councilmen" were also referred to eloquently.

### Durham Prevails.

His arguments finally prevailed and the directors surrendered. Their capithan half way across the river. tulation to the people in this instance was announced in the letter addresses to the councils.

The surrender of the company did not come, however, until the people had given pretty good evidence that they would force the councilmen to defeat the ordinance or demand a strict accounting from the city legislators.

It is doubtful even whether Durham would have taken the stand he did had it not been for the great outcry against the "steal."

### Handwriting on the Wall.

The boss has never been noted for Philadelphians. Had he not seen the handwriting on the wall it is doubtful seemed to hear him. whether he would ever have taken the

The people, ever since the fight against the extension of the lease began, have been working hard to defeat the project. They failed at the meeting of the councils last week, and the measure went through. Without yielding to this discouragement they at once went to with renewed energy. Determination to win in the end headed off the final ratification of the bill.

Mayor Weaver became the center of their hopes. On him their arguments prevailed. He announced that he would veto the bill. In doing this the mayor broke completely with the organization, for the time being at least.

Even with the mayor's pledge to re fuse his signature to the bill, the battle

(Continued on Second Page.)

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK IN WASHINGTON AS SEEN AT A GLANCE



ern Branch yesterday.
As yet neither of the bodies has been recovered, although several hours were spent near the scenes of the catastrophe y the crew of the police boat Vigilant. The first victim was Private Wilburn ject has been treated indicates that the community is opposed to any extension Company E, of the Hospital Corps, and stationed at the Washington Barracks. He was rowing near the outlet of the willing to accept the ordinance which James Creek canal when his boat cap- It is believed his lungs were filled with has been passed or to enter into any sized and he was drowned before he water, which made his body too heavy

The Second Victim.

Frank J. Massino, an Italian, enlisted and two were lowered from the as a coal passer on the United States steamship Dolphin, was the second man to go to a watery grave. He was bath-ing near the Navy Yard bridge about 6 clock yesterday afternoon when the United States tug Triton steamed up the Eastern Branch. Before he could reach the Dolphin, toward which he swam, he was carried beneath the surface by the swells from the tug and drowned before the eves of several comrades and fellow-bathers.

Although Enoch was drowned before police boat Vigilant was hastily dis-patched to the scene of the accident

At dark the search was given up for Enoch had been a member of the Company E Hospital Corps for eight

years, and was serving his third er listment. Recently he came to th Washington Barracks, from the Phil-

Yesterday afternoon he obtained leave for several hours. Upon informing the boat keeper that he could row he was started off down the channel, and turned into the Eastern Branch. When he reached a point opposite the arsenal wharf near the outlet of the James Creek canal, his boat began to rock to and fro because of the swells from a passing tug boat.

Enoch pulled hard on his oars to prevent the boat from upsetting, but threw oo much of his weight to one side. Th oat turned turtlé.

He was a good swimmer and had often bathed in water much deeper than that nto which he fell when the boat cap sized. He immediately struck out to

### Attempts at Rescue Fail.

Several men standing on the Anacos tia side of the river saw him. One got a boat and rowed to the scene of the Before he could reach the soldier's side, the latter sank beneath the surface and did not rise the customary three times.

Enoch had on his Kahki uniform and shoes. His hat was found floating past the arsenal some time after the acci-

As Enoch was swimming to the shore he realized that the wet clothes would of gying much attention to the desires of bear him under before he could reach

Those who witnessed the overturning down Sixth street from Louisiana aveof the boat endeavored to rescue the soldier. When all attempts failed they communicated with the police.

### Massino Goes Swimming.

Several sailors on the Dolphin suggested to Massino that he take a swim In the river about 6 o'clock. He had been in the stiffing hot fold of the boat all day, and agreed to join them shortly after the evening mess. Donning a suit is said, and dealt him a victous blow after the evening mess. Donning a suit is said, and dealt him a victous blow he plunged overboard and swam out in the direction of the Navy Yard bridge. When he reachest the farthest point cast he turned around and started toward the Dolphin. About the time he was thirty yards from the boat the Triton steamed up the Eeastern brench, having tugged several barges to Inhaving tugged seve in the river about 6 o'clock. He had been

rectly in the path of the Triton he saw he could not swim across to the Dolphin, and turned around to get on the other side of the Triton. Before he was able to this, however, the side of the boat struck him and shoved him

under the water. When he arose the swells from the tug struck him in the face, and when last seen his mouth was wide open.

to rise after going down. After the accident numerous boats were hauled out from the Navy Yard, phin. Grapling books were used by the sailors aboard the ship, and river men also dragged the stream for the body, but without success. After working until dark the men gave licemen at the Harbormester's office The crew will start out this morning to drag for both bodies at the same time, as the scenes of the drowning

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Justice Harlan One of the Counsel to Prevent Legal Entanglements of Consolidation.

WINONA LAKE, Ind., May 27.-The Presbyterian general assembly ended at on today. The lawyers named to prevent any legal entanglements in the consolidation with the Cumberland branch include Justice Harlan, of the

United States Supreme Court.

The only important measure that was brought before the assembly was the holding over until next year of the requests of the South and East Florida presbyteries to establish white synods in these districts. Only colored synods importance were read before the assembly adjourned.

### TYSER WAS WITNESS TO THEFT OF BICYCLE

Tyser was on his way to Police Headquarters when he saw Bodine walk to the curb, look at Cameron's bleyele, and then walk to the shadow building, where he watched the He yelled lustily, but no one suddenly rushed to the wheel, and, nue. Cameron then appeared upon the scene and shouted "Hey! Catch that man with my wheel.'

END OF STRIKE STILL FAR AWAY

Nothing Accemplished Toward a Settlement.

FRICTION IN THE COUNCILS

Much Trouble in Streets at Various Points-Steamer Stoned From a Bridge.

CHICAGO, May 27 .- So far as efcerned, nothing was done today. The executive council of the Teamsters' International Council, spent a large part of the day in endeavoring to arrange the dispute between the iron teamsters and iron workers regarding jurisdiction, which threatens the loss of financial aid from the Building Trades

This evening members of the counil expresed themselves as confident that the matter will be straightened

There was a great deal of street troduced-one when a woman was arrested for leading a mixed mob and assaulting an officer with a brick, and the thizers gathered at the approaches o a bridge and stoned a steamer carrying a load of lumber to an "unfair" dock.

### Several Persons Clubbed.

Several persons were clubbed severe y by the police in the squabbles and a seriously injured.

At Thirty-fifth and Morgan streets today a crowd of 500, including a large umber of women, attacked a wagon driven by a non-union man and a flerce followed. A rlot call brought many officers and the crowd was charged vigorously. A number were arrested, including Mrs. Margaret Corcoran, who had been a leader and had knocked Of-ficer Dressler's helmet off with a brick

and cut his scalp Later in the day the lumber steamer Detective Tyser last night arrested James Bodine, living on the Conduit cher evenue draw, was pelted with all road, on a charge of petty larceny. kinds of missiles by a couple of hun-

Elliott escaped. He had noticed the crowd before reaching the bridge and of the station. warned the crew to hide themselves beneath the piles of lumber on deck

several were severely cut and bruised.

### Mayer Goes to New York.

Levy Mayer, attorney for the Employers' Association and the express com-panies, left hurriedly for New York to-Tyser gave chase and caught Bodine, day, after several conferences over the who was led to Police Headquarters. long distance telephone. It was said Before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he suddent that he had been talking with Senathra before going up the steps he will be successful to the steps he will be success ly began to cry, and defied Tyser to take him into the building.

that he had been talking with Sena-systematic take him into the building.

### WIRELESS MESSAGE COMES 500 MILES Operator at Navy Yard Be-GERMANS PREPARE

comes Eavesdropper. HEARS TALK FROM BOSTON

forts to bring about a settlement of Remarkable Results Achieved by Instrument in Operation Here

> "Will you please give me that message you said you got from Ports-mouth this afternoon? I forget to get copy of this Pg. PG. PG.

This message came clicking into the wireless telegraph office of the Washington Navy Yard the other day. It

Offered at International Gymcaused the usually imperturbable wire less operator, Mr. Bean, to jump to his trouble and two new features were in- feet. "Great goodness," he exclaimed te one of his friends in the office, "did you hear how clear that message came It was Boston Navy Yard and Thath eer's Island talking, 500 miles off. Our instrument got in on the circuit. That was a long distance call all right."

Navy Yard recently as showing the tre-mendous area way which the instrument is covering. All sorts of stray bits the twenty-ninth International Gym-cantly: conversation are floating into the little office at the southeast end of the Navy Yard, where Operator Bean holds

### Becomes an Eavesdropper.

Bean is not by inclination an eavesdropper, but in these days when a man charge of a wireless instrument he overhears much talk floating through the air that ordinary mortals do not know about. It is the business of the operator to watch the instrument every mement of the day and a record is kent.

Within two hours last night Mr. Spier mement of the day and a record is kept of the long distance calls,

Recenti- there have been some marvelous results obtained with the ap- \$1,000 before the arrival of the day. Tyser says he caught the young man in the act of stealing a bicycle belonging to Harry Cameron, a member of the Hospital Corps of the United States, stationed at the Washington

Barracks.

kinds of missiles by a couple of hundred rioters, who stood on the approaches at either end.

First Mate McConnell, who was at the Washington tation. The naval officers stationed there are beginning to hope that the instrument will surpass all others in its range, and make the wheel, suffered a fractured arm from a prick which hit him. Captain have been made to enlarge the scope

neath the piles of lumber on deek.

A blockade at Market and Randolph stacks are utilized to hold the appar- with their brethren on this side of However, it can be stated upon the streets resulted in a serious row, in which many arrests were made and l85 feet. Very soon it is planned to such as are always offered at these move the office 500 feet away, and another mast 200 feet high will be put up and will be used in connection with the east chimney of the new power-house. Between these two structures the plant will be strung.

That the team is purely amentor is the sale in the Elliott islands some festivals, were chosen from the 800,600 its base in the Elliott islands some days ago and all of the heavy armed ships under Admiral Togo are with the flower of the young manhood of Germany.

That the team is purely amentor is a moment's notice. Sapanese experts

#### Long Distance Calls. An officer connected with the wireless follows:

system at the Navy Yard said yester-

### JAPAN AWAITING NEWS OF BATTLE OFF TSU SHIMA War and Navy Depart-

ment Open All Night Expecting News.

Togo Well Informed of the Enemy's Situation—Confidence of Officials.

TOKYO ALL EXCITEMENT

TOKYO, May 27.-5:20 a. m.-Throughout the night the lights have burned at the war and navy departments, and high chiefs of the bureaus have met in secret conclave and have discussed the probable outcome of the naval battle which perhaps has already been fought or is, at the furthest, but a few hours

Whatever news has been received is a secret carefully guarded. Nor will the searchlight of publicity be thrown on the happenings of the night until absolute news shall come from the com-mander of the Japanese fleet.

Censorship Strict.

The censorship is the strictest since the war began. It is reported that all incoming cable messages are held, up and will be detained at the receiving station until stamped by the censor.

The only thing officially admitted by the Japanese officials is that the main fleet of the Russians, flying the flag of a vice admiral, was, on Saturday, steaming in two columns through the Tsu Shima straits with notillas of torpedo craft in front and in the rear.

The battleships were in the van while behind them came the armored cruisers, the volunteer fleet and the colliers. The All larger vessels have been cleared for action. Their torpedo nets are down, Togo Well Informed.

No one knows where the Japanese heet was at that time nor what was the intention of the admiral commanding. It is certain he was fully cognizant of the whereabouts of the enemy and the disposition of his forces, If a battle has been fought, or even if

Nor so

FIERCE

Visit Capital.

nastic Festival.

All German citizens of Washington,

that city June 21-26

received donations toward the

Invited by Turner Bund.

best indicated by scanning the list, as

George Bade, clerk city gas offic

Hanover; Henry Berger, merchant

WHEN YOU

GET MEAR

there has been preliminary skirmishing between the advance guard of the Russians and the Japanese scout ships, that fact is a closely guarded secret. History is being made at the present The curtain must remain down until Japan decides to raise it or a

unofficial quarters it is believed that the result of the fight will be favorable to Japan. No one cares to hazard any guesses until the govern. Party From Fatherland to Certain it is that the attitude of the officials is most confident, far from being that of men apprehensive of receiving bad news.

### Excitement in City.

Not since the breaking out of the INVITED 70 INDIANAPOLIS war has there been so much suppressed excitement and anxiety in this city as prevails this morning

Throughout the night there have been and Rogestvensky had met in battle and that one or the other had been victorious. While these rumors had the effect of stirring the people as they seldom have been stirred before, none of the Saengerbund, the Columbia Turn them could be verified, nor have they Verein, and other societies are preapparently any confirmation at the

paring to give a grand reception to a navy department. At midnight one of the leading offi-This incident is only one of the many band of representative athletes from that have occurred at the Washington the German Empire, who will pass assurance that up to that time no word through the Capital June 15 on their had been received from Admiral Togo. way to Indianapolis to participate in He added, in leaving, however, signifinastic Festival, which is to be held in

"We cannot tell now what a moment may bring forth. We are waiting for President Roosevelt will receive the informati

Battle Expected at Once.

### This remark was pregnant with mean-

visitors from over the sea at noon on the day of their visit to Washington, and the balance of the day will be deng, inasmuch as the Japanese fleet is voted to most lavish entertainment of the sturdy sons of the Fatherland. word of a battle would come so soon as George W. Spier has been chosen as chairman of the committee on entertainment, and he will name his fellow during Saturday or Sunday nights an attack by destroyers and torpedo craft on the Russian fleet may be expected Rogestvensky, confident in his strength, is making a bold movement ecount totaling more than \$400, and ti is proposed to swell this amount to \$1,000 before the arrival of the day. regardless of the plans of the Japanese. The invitation which brings the rep- Should he gain his point and be unopwill surpass all others in its range, and in accordance with this theory plans have been made to enlarge the scope Bund, which consists of 400 societies and interefere with the land-locked harwith a membership of about 40,000 Ger- bors where the Japanese transports are The wireless station is now located man-Americans all over the United landing troops at will at the present

highest authority that this will not be Very soon it is planned to such as are always offered at these the case. The Japanese squadron left

That the team is purely amateur is will be greatly surprised if the out-best indicated by scanning the list, as come is not the total annihilation of the

#### Rogestvensky Mute Until Battle Is Fought

word has been received by the Russian officials from Admiral Rogestvensky for officials from Admiral togestvensay for forty-eight hours. None is expected until a decisive battle shall have been fought off the coast of Japan. Officials who should know declare the admiral has signified his intention to shell the coast towns of Japan and then to proceed leisurely to Vladivostok, where he will refit and plan the next